

ABSTRACT

A method for providing a backup server to a primary server includes operating a first server such that the first server communicates with a network and is associated with a primary server address. A second server is also maintained, configured in parallel with the first server, and associated with a monitor server address. The monitor server includes periodically signaling the primary server address, watching to determine whether a response to the signal is received within a predetermined time period, and repeating the signaling and watching until a time period elapses where the response is not received within the time period. If a response is not received, the first server is rebooted and the second server assumes the role of the primary server.